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HE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited on this date with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail addressed to the Commissioner for Patents,

P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Patent Application

Applicant(s): Bagga et al.

Case:

1-1-1-1-1-1-3-1

Serial No.:

09/520,133

Filing Date:

March 7, 2000

Group:

2143

Examiner:

Alina N. Boutah

Title:

Inter-Domain Network Management System

For Multi-Layer Networks

RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The remarks below are submitted in response to the final Office Action dated September 14, 2004 in the above-identified application. A Notice of Appeal is submitted concurrently herewith.

REMARKS

The present application was filed on March 7, 2000, with claims 1-19, and claims the priority of a provisional application filed July 30, 1999. Claims 1-19 are currently pending in the present application. Claims 1, 18 and 19 are the independent claims.

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the present application in view of the following remarks.

Claims 1-19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over M. Mortensen, "Operations Architecture for Data-Centric Converged Telecommunications Networks: Lucent Technologies' Open Operations CORBA Architecture," Lucent Network and Services Management White Paper, pp. 1-10, 1999 (hereinafter "the Mortensen reference"), in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,289,201 (hereinafter "Weber").